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this city, with a death rate of about 30 per cent. Reliable reports state that there are now between 800 and 1,000 cases, distributed between the lazaretto and the various hospitals and treated at private residences, with a death rate of only about 10 per cent. A campaign of compulsory vaccination was inaugurated by the Government of Guatemala.

Smallpox is reported to be perceptibly decreasing in other parts of the Republic.

HAWAII.

Reports from Honolulu—Examination of rats for plague infection— Plague rats at Hilo.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Currie reports, January 16 and 18, through Temporary Chief Quarantine Officer Moore:

Two weeks ended January 9.

Total number of rats taken in Honolulu.....	957
Trapped	688
Found dead	4
Shot from trees	132
Killed by sulphur dioxid	133
Examined bacteriologically	849
Showing plague infection	0
Rats sent from Hilo	14
Hilo rats showing plague infection	5
Hilo rats still under investigation	6
Classification of rats shot from trees in Honolulu:	
<i>Mus alexandrinus</i>	82
<i>Mus rattus</i>	29
Total classified	111

Classification of rats trapped in Honolulu.

<i>Mus rattus</i>	213
<i>Mus n rvegicus</i>	81
<i>Mus alexandrinus</i>	165
<i>Mus musculus</i>	233
Total classified	692

Classification of rats killed by sulphur dioxid.

<i>Mus alexandrinus</i>	82
<i>Mus rattus</i>	48
<i>Mus musculus</i>	3
Total classified	133

Average number of traps set daily	1,461
Number of poisons placed	537

NOTE.—Owing to the concentration of the force on the water front to lessen the probability of plague being introduced here from Hilo, the total number of rats taken has decreased, but as soon as this danger passes the trappers will be returned to their former districts.

January 19. Outbreak of plague among rats at Hilo, Island of Hawaii.

In December, 1908, a sanitary inspector for the board of health, Territory of Hawaii, found dead rats in a stable in Hilo known as the city stable; also in another stable less than 100 yards distant. In all, 43 dead rats were found in these stables. The diagnosis of

plague has been confirmed bacteriologically in the case of 5 of these rodents and a provisional diagnosis of plague made in the case of 3 others. The latter were too far decomposed for successful examination.

Upon request of the president of the board of health, and by direction of temporary chief quarantine officer Moore, I proceeded to Hilo, Hawaii, leaving Honolulu January 5 and returning to this station January 16.

Upon my arrival at Hilo an investigation was begun that consumed ten days. The first case of human plague in Hilo died in 1899, and was buried within a few feet of the house in which the case occurred. The house was then burned. The body was buried surrounded by quicklime.

From that time to the present date several outbreaks have appeared in the neighborhood in which the case referred to occurred, the two stables mentioned being but a few yards away. With the exception of a group of 4 cases occurring in 1903-4, about one mile distant, most of the human cases have been in this neighborhood, or have slept at one of the stables mentioned.

Furthermore, the city stable hauls all freight for the Olaa plantation, which had plague in 1907. Much good work had already been done in this neighborhood since the occurrence of the human cases on February 22 and April 6, 1908, respectively. This work consisted in raising all houses above ground or laying concrete floors, and the destruction of most of the rat harbors which had previously existed. This work is to be continued until completed in an area of several blocks about this infected focus.

In dealing with the problem of rat destruction, it was advised that Hilo be divided into 3 districts; the first to include all that portion of the city where infection was known to exist; the second, all of the city on the west side; and the third, all on the east side of the infected area.

In the central district, "the infected district," it was advised that:

1. The work of destroying rat harbors be continued until completed.
2. That poison be placed in every house in this district and be visited once daily to replace any that may have been eaten.
3. That at least 2 traps be set in each house in this district and visited once daily.
4. That every rat hole be located and fumigated with carbon bisulphid twice a week.
5. That a reward be paid for each plague rat brought in and that the trappers be told that the probability of earning such reward was very great if they sought dead rats in this district.
6. That all garbage be collected each afternoon on each working day of the week.

In the adjoining two districts it was recommended that: 1. At least one trap be set in each house. 2. That poison be placed in each house and visited several times weekly.

Arrangement was made to have the interisland vessels that do not come to Honolulu, fumigated at intervals at Hilo. Those that do come to Honolulu will be fumigated there.

Arrangements have also been made to have all vessels plying between Hilo and the mainland fumigated at intervals and a certificate of this fact issued to them. The only exception to this is in the case of vessels of the American-Hawaiian Steamship Company, which occasionally go direct from Hilo to the Pacific coast of the United States. These are too large to be handled at Hilo.

It is considered that all vessels arriving from Hilo without proper certificates of recent fumigation are unsafe, whether they have lain at wharf or were loaded from lighters, as many of the latter are so constructed as to be excellent rat harbors.

The Hilo wharf, which is about a mile from the known area of infection, was inspected with a view to the practicability of making it rat proof, but this was not considered practicable, the frequent fumigation of vessels being preferable. Of the mainland vessels, only those from Eureka, Cal., lie at this wharf, but small vessels and lighters ply between this wharf and all vessels lying in the open roadstead.

A case of plague has occurred in a guinea pig kept near the room where infected rats were being received by the agent of the board of health.

A systematic supervision of the burial of the dead is maintained.

INDIA.

Report from Calcutta—Transactions of Service—Cholera, plague, and smallpox—Plague in India and Bengal.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Eakins reports, December 31:

Week ended December 26. Bills of health issued to the steamship *Dragoman*, bound for Galveston with a total crew of 55, and to the steamship *Warturn*, bound for Boston and New York with a total crew of 67.

Week ended January 2. Bills of health issued to the steamship *Crostafels*, bound for Philadelphia and New York with a total crew of 58, and to the steamship *Moltkefels*, bound for Boston and New York with a total crew of 58. The usual precautions were taken as regards all the vessels named; the holds were fumigated, rat guards placed on wharf lines, and Asiatics' effects disinfected.

Week ended December 19. At Calcutta there were 8 deaths from cholera, 9 from plague, and 16 from smallpox. In Bengal 136 cases and 107 deaths from plague. In India, general, 2,249 cases and 1,788 deaths from plague.

ITALY.

Reports from Naples—Inspection of vessels—Emigrants recommended for rejection—Smallpox in Naples—Status of smallpox in Italy.

Assistant Surgeon Wollenberg reports, January 4 and 11:

Vessels inspected at Naples and Palermo week ended January 2.

NAPLES.

Date.	Name of ship.	Destination.	Steerage passengers inspected and passed.	Pieces of baggage inspected and passed.	Pieces of baggage disinfected.
Dec. 30	Re d'Italia	New York	669	60	750
30	Craigellachie	Key West			
Jan. 2	Republic	New York	1,674	110	2,100
	Total		2,343	170	2,850

PALERMO.

Dec. 31	Re d'Italia	New York	520	527	291
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